Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : May I know whether there is any applicant belonging to the Ezhava community for the post ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : The acting Ezhava graduate I referred to has had sufficient experience as an acting Inspector and as a clerk in my office.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : May I know whether any duly qualified Ezhava applied for the post ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : None, as far as I am aware.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai : May I know whether there is anybody in this department who holds a diploma in co-operation ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : There is only one who holds a diploma. And so far as my information goes, no University in India has yet instituted a diploma in co-operation.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai : May I know why that particular gentleman who holds that diploma has not been appointed?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : He is my Personal Assistant. He receives a higher salary than an Inspector.

Co-operative Societies in the State.

19. * **Mr. E. P. Varghese** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of co-operative societies in existence now in the State ;

(*b*) the number of credit societies and the number of distributive societies among them.

(*c*) the number of co-operative societies in existence at the beginning of the year 1108 ;

(*d*) the number of societies closed down since 1108 owing to financial mismanagement and owing to disputes between the members ; and

(*e*) the total amount advanced as loan by the credit societies of the State by the end of the year 1110 ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : (*a*) 1782.

(*b*) Credit Societies 1710. Distribution Societies 22.

(*c*) 1810.

(*d*) 85 till 1110.

(*e*) Rs. 20,96,829.

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